



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,359	12/20/2001	Roderick L. Roma	088305-0138	3441

22428 7590 03/08/2006

FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP
SUITE 500
3000 K STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20007

EXAMINER

PARDO, THUY N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2165

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/022,359	ROMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thuy Pardo	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on December 13, 2005 in response to Examiner's Office Action has been reviewed.
2. Claims 1-45 are presented for examination.
3. The indicated allowability of claim 1-45 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference to Burge et al. US patent No. 6,014,638. Rejections based on the newly cited reference follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Burge et al. (Hereinafter “Burge”) US Patent No. 6,014,638.

As to claim 1, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed, comprising:
receiving an identification of a first customer [user ID, col. 4, lines 20-23];

Art Unit: 2165

identifying one or more applications stored in the compute system accessible to the first customer [products and services relating to specific products and services from a particular merchant's site, col. 3, lines 66 to col. 4, lines 17];

receiving a selection of a first application from the one or more applications to execute [the shopper's selection is communicated back to the electronic shopping manager, col. 4, lines 38-45];

identifying one or more rules applicable to the application [must establish an account with on-line service and have a password for accessing the service, col. 4, line 17-22; col. 8, lines 10-20];

executing in the computer system one or more generic tasks stored in a first area accessible to all customers [display general topics, categories to shoppers, col. 3, lines 65 to col. 4, lines 17];

executing in the computer system at least one customized task according to the identified one or more rules, the at least one customized task being stored in a second area accessible only to the first customer [customized according to the user's preferences stored in the User Profile Database so it may be presented to the user, col. 7, lines 38-49; col. 8, lines 21-60] wherein the at least one customized task is different from any generic task and generated according to information provided by the first customer [col. 8, lines 49 to col. 9, lines 53].

As to claim 2, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches receiving an identification of a second customer different from the first customer [inherent in the system because each customer has his own id and password, col. 4, line 17-22]; identifying one

Art Unit: 2165

or more applications accessible to the second customer [col. 8, lines 61 to col. 9, lines 53]; receiving a selection of a second applications accessible to the second application from the one or more customer to execute [col. 9, lines 26-53]; executing one or more generic tasks stored in the first area accessible to all customers according to the identified one or more rules applicable to the second application and, the at least one customized task being stored in a third area accessible only to the second customer [col. 9, lines 26 to col. 10, lines 13].

As to claim 3, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that at least one of the generic tasks executed for the first application is executed for the second application [col. 9, lines 26 to col. 10, lines 13].

As to claim 4, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that at least one of the rules applicable to the first application is applicable to the second application [establishing an account with on-line service and having a password for accessing the service must be applied for all shoppers, col. 4, line 17-22].

As to claim 5, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches receiving a request to modify the first generic application into a first custom application, generating at least one customized task based upon the received request, and modifying at least one of the one or more identified rules to incorporate the at least one customized task into the first custom application, the first custom application including at least one of the one or more generic tasks included in the first generic application [col. 8, lines 2-60].

As to claim 6, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that the request includes details about tasks to include in the first custom application, and the at least one customized task is generated according to the details [col. 8, lines 21-60].

As to claim 7, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that the generating the at least one customized task includes modifying at least one of the one or more generic tasks to generate the at least one customized task [col. 8, lines 21-60].

As to claim 8, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that the at least one customized task is a new task different from the identified one or more generic tasks [col. 10, lines 55-67].

As to claim 10, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that storing the at least on customized task of the first custom application in a location in memory that is only accessible to the first customer [customized display of seven options for the second shopper, col. 9, lines 45 to col. 10, lines 13].

As to claim 13, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches storing the at least on customized task of the second custom application in a location in memory that is only accessible to the second customer [customized display of three options for the second shopper, col. 9, lines 45 to col. 10, lines 13].

As to claim 14, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that the first and second generic applications are the same [5 different casual clothing stores operated by 5 different merchants, col. 8, lines 61-67].

As to claim 15, Burge teaches the invention substantially as claimed. Burge further teaches that the first and second generic applications are different [general topics, categories, or areas of interests from variety of merchants' sites, col. 4, lines 6-17].

As to claims 9, 11, 12, 16-45, all limitations of these claims have been addressed in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

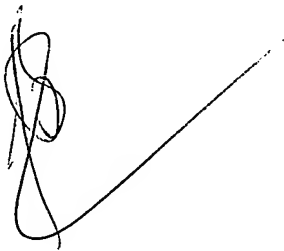
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Pardo whose telephone number is 571-272-4082. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2165

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

March 03, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long, sweeping line extending to the right.

THUY N. PARDO
PRIMARY EXAMINER